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REDVERS,

EXMOUTH,

January 28th, 1926

To the Chairman and Members of the Exeter Port Sanitary Authority—

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present the Annual Report for 1925. To facilitate reference, the various subjects are arranged as in the 1924 Report. There has been a diminution in the amount of shipping using the Port as compared with 1924, viz.,

	1924.	1925.
Foreign	69	55
Coastwise	180	157
Total ...	249	212



and the tonnage has declined from 23,709 to 23,590. Most of the Vessels were under 100 tons burthen, the largest being a Swedish motor timber Ship of 319 tons. The Cargoes included Cement, Timber, Kanite, Benzoline, Sand, Stone, Onions, Oil Cake, Superphosphate, Glass, Potatoes, Potash, Manure, Slates, Granite, Petrol, and Gravel.

Amongst the places with which the Port has most trade are :—

FOREIGN.

Bremen, Archangel, Roscoff, Antwerp, Granville, Hamburg, Ghent, Brussels, Gothenberg, St. Malo, Rouen, Oslo, and Kotka.

BRITISH.

Isle of Wight, Southampton, London, Dartmouth, Plymouth, Hull, Rochester, Newport, Torquay, Portland, and Kingsbridge.

I am glad to be able to report that no cases of notifiable disease occurred during the year, nor were any serious sanitary defects discovered. No signs of rats were found on board any Ship, and all were visited and inspected by the Sanitary Inspector, the Deputy Medical Officer of Health, or myself.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

In the event of the introduction of Smallpox into the Port, an agreement has been entered into with the Exeter City Council whereby such cases can be admitted into the Exeter Isolation Hospital. For this privilege a retaining fee of £40 per annum is charged, exclusive of removal and maintenance. Certain cases of infectious disease can be received in the Isolation Hospital at Whipton (distance 11 miles) the charge being 2/- per mile each way for the motor ambulance, with an additional fee of 5 - for a Nurse, if required. These fees do not include maintenance, etc. in the Hospital. As yet, no suitable provision has been made for dealing with Plague, Cholera, or Yellow Fever. The occurrence of one or other of these diseases is certainly possible, and the contingency ought to be provided for.

For the disinfection of Clothing, bedding, etc. the high pressure apparatus belonging to the Exmouth District Council is available at a reasonable charge.

MORTUARY.

This is situated about one mile from the Docks.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

No cases were reported during the year. Exeter is the nearest centre for treatment, and on application the Master of a Vessel can be furnished with the days and hours of attendance.

DANGEROUS DRUGS.

When required by Masters of Vessels Orders for these can be obtained from me.

UN SOUND FOOD REGULATIONS.

Mr. Bonham's Report is appended herewith.

MUSSELS.

The Mussel Cleansing tanks at Lympstone have not proved a success from the fishermen's standpoint. The men complain that after paying all charges, the profits are so small that they are not reasonably compensated for their toil. Last season the fish were not up to the usual quality, and this was a great disadvantage when competing with Dutch Supplies. I understand there is a possibility of the Tanks being closed down in 1926. This would be a calamity to all concerned, and I trust that the Government will, at any rate, keep the tanks open for another season. This will give time for some improvement to take place in the quality of the Mussels, which, if it does occur will encourage the fishermen and render the competition with foreign supplies easier.

A Table is appended indicating the number of Vessels entering the Port together with their nationality, tonnage, and the number of inspections made by your officials during 1925.

List of Orders which came into force in the year 1925.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations	-	-	dated 20th December.	1924
Public Health (Foreign Meat) Regulations	-		„ 17th February.	1925.
Public Health (Imported Food) do.	-	-	„ 20th May,	1925.
Canal Boats Amendment do.	-	-	„ 9th June,	1925.
Public Health (Preservatives, etc. in Food) Regulations			„ 4th August,	1925.
Tuberculosis Order Meat Inspection	-	-	„ 5th August,	1925.
Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations	-	-	„ 6th October,	1925.

It is satisfactory to report the absence of any infectious disease during the year, the sound condition of imported food and the general freedom from insanitary defects on British and Foreign Vessels.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. BEESLEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

5, SOUTHERNHAY WEST,

EXETER,

7th January, 1926.

DEAR SIR,

PORT SANITARY INSPECTIONS IN EXETER.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1925.

The total number of food cargoes examined at the Port of Exeter during the year were:—

Onions	3
Potatoes	3
Salted Cod fish, ex rail			...	9

The whole of this food was found to be in good condition, and to call for no action under the Unsound Food Regulations.

The other vessels that were examined numbered 22, and in the case of all vessels, the members of the crews were interviewed, and they all appeared to be in good health. No case of sickness was reported, and in no instance was the presence of rats detected on board. Generally speaking, the vessels were maintained in a sanitary condition.

The Wharves and Warehouses at the Quay and Basin were periodically inspected, and it gives me pleasure to report that no insanitary conditions were discovered.

Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR E. BONHAM,

Chief Inspector.

Dr. C. BEESLEY,

Port Medical Officer,

Town Hall,

Exmouth.

Amount of Shipping entering the Exeter Port Sanitary District during the Year 1925 :

Form A.

		Number.	Tonnage.	Number Inspected.		Number Reported to be Defective.	Number of Orders Issued.
				By Medical Officer of Health.	By the Sanitary Inspector.		
Foreign	Steamers	11	2056	5	11	} Nil.	} Nil.
	* Motor	24	3402	7	24		
	Sailing	20	2016	8	20		
Total Foreign		55	7474	20	55		
Coastwise	Steamers	45	8008	16	45		
	* Motor	74	5318	6	74		
	Sailing	38	2790	4	38		
Total Coastwise		157	16116	26	157		
Total Foreign and Coastwise		212	23590	46	212		

* Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers.

Form B.

Rats destroyed in 1925.

[illegible]

